



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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29 JULY 1966

~~TOP SECRET~~

DAILY BRIEF
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1. Nigeria

Rebellious northerners within the Nigerian Army launched a major effort today against General Ironsi's military regime. Ironsi himself may be dead. Fighting is said to be spreading to various parts of the country, though at last word Lagos was quiet.

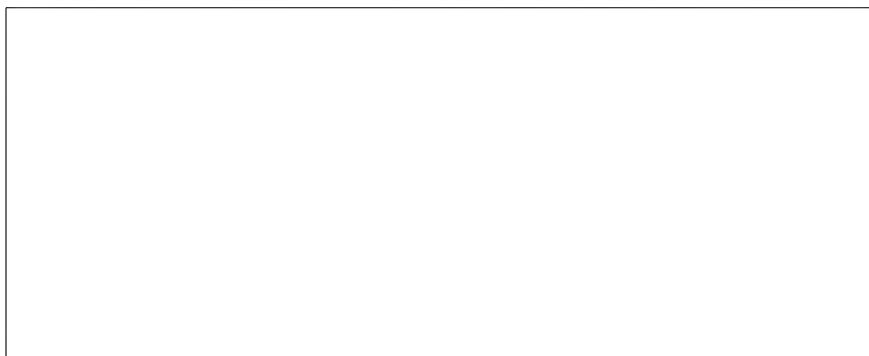
This could well develop into prolonged and bloody intertribal warfare. The army, which is all that has been holding the country together since the military coup last January, is in immediate danger of disintegration.

There were some 6,000 American citizens in Nigeria at latest count. The embassy has initiated the warning phase of the evacuation plan.

2. South Vietnam

During a recent conversation with US officials, Tran Van Tuyen, a former deputy premier, showed some interest in the subject of negotiations to end the war. He said he felt the main responsibility for settlement should rest with the Vietnamese, albeit with the agreement of the US. He suggested that Vietnamese be used more extensively in sounding out both Hanoi and the Viet Cong. Tuyen is an astute politician and he may be reflecting the views of other civilian politicians in Saigon.

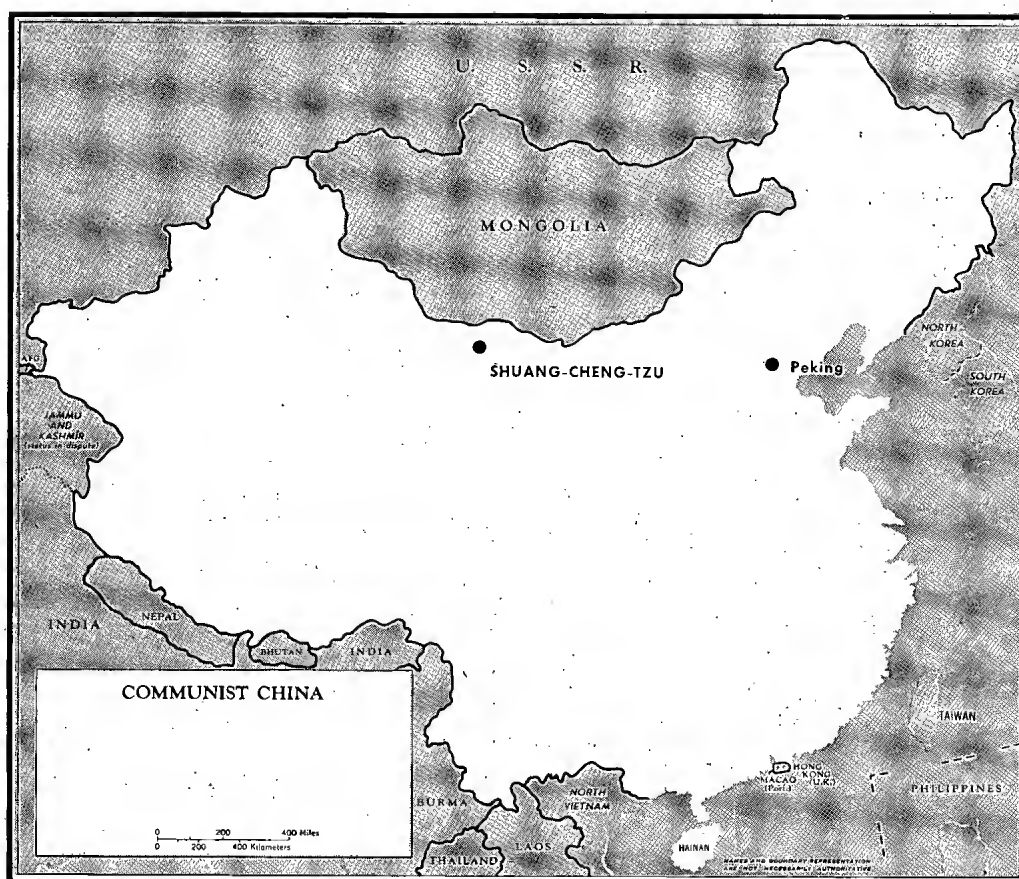
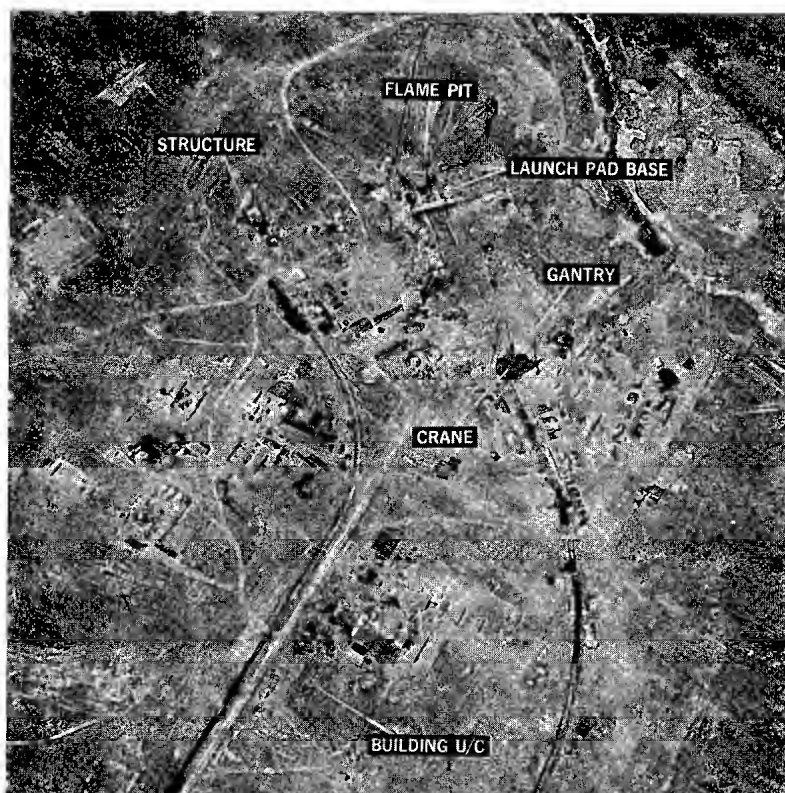
3. North Vietnam



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Shuang-Cheng-Tzu Missile Test Center



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4. Communist China

Mid-July photography of the Chinese missile test range (see photo) shows continued rapid construction on a new launch facility that clearly appears designed ultimately for a developmental program for very large missiles. For the past year, construction on this site has gone ahead at a pace extremely rapid, even by US and Soviet standards.

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5. Laos

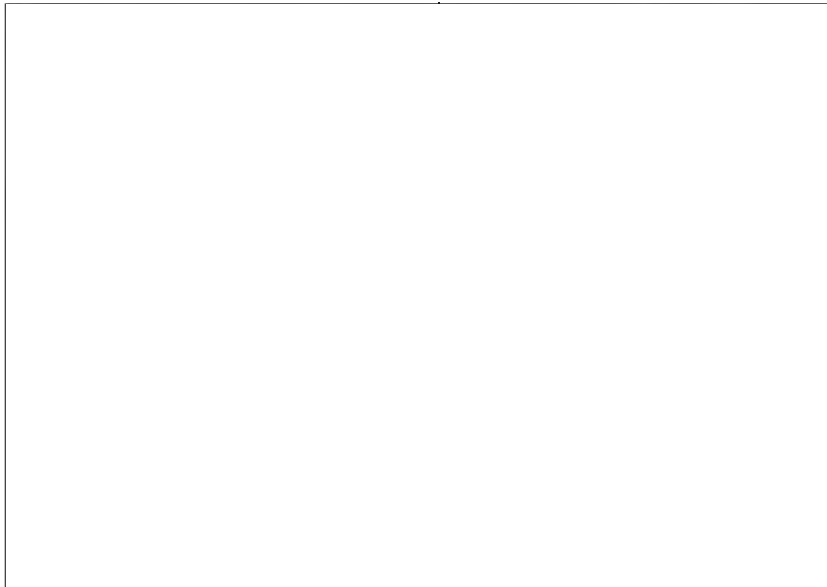
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6. Congo

There are some signs that the Kisangani mutiny is spreading and may be part of a plot against Mobutu.

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Mobutu is aware of the plot story and the upshot is likely to be more harassment of Belgians, especially in Katanga. Mobutu is already shipping another army battalion there.

7. Berlin

At the moment we are inclined to discount the mounting rumors that the Soviets and East Germans are getting ready to launch new harassments in and around Berlin. These rumors are almost a reflex reaction whenever the US undertakes new foreign policy initiatives, in this case the bombings near Hanoi and Haiphong.

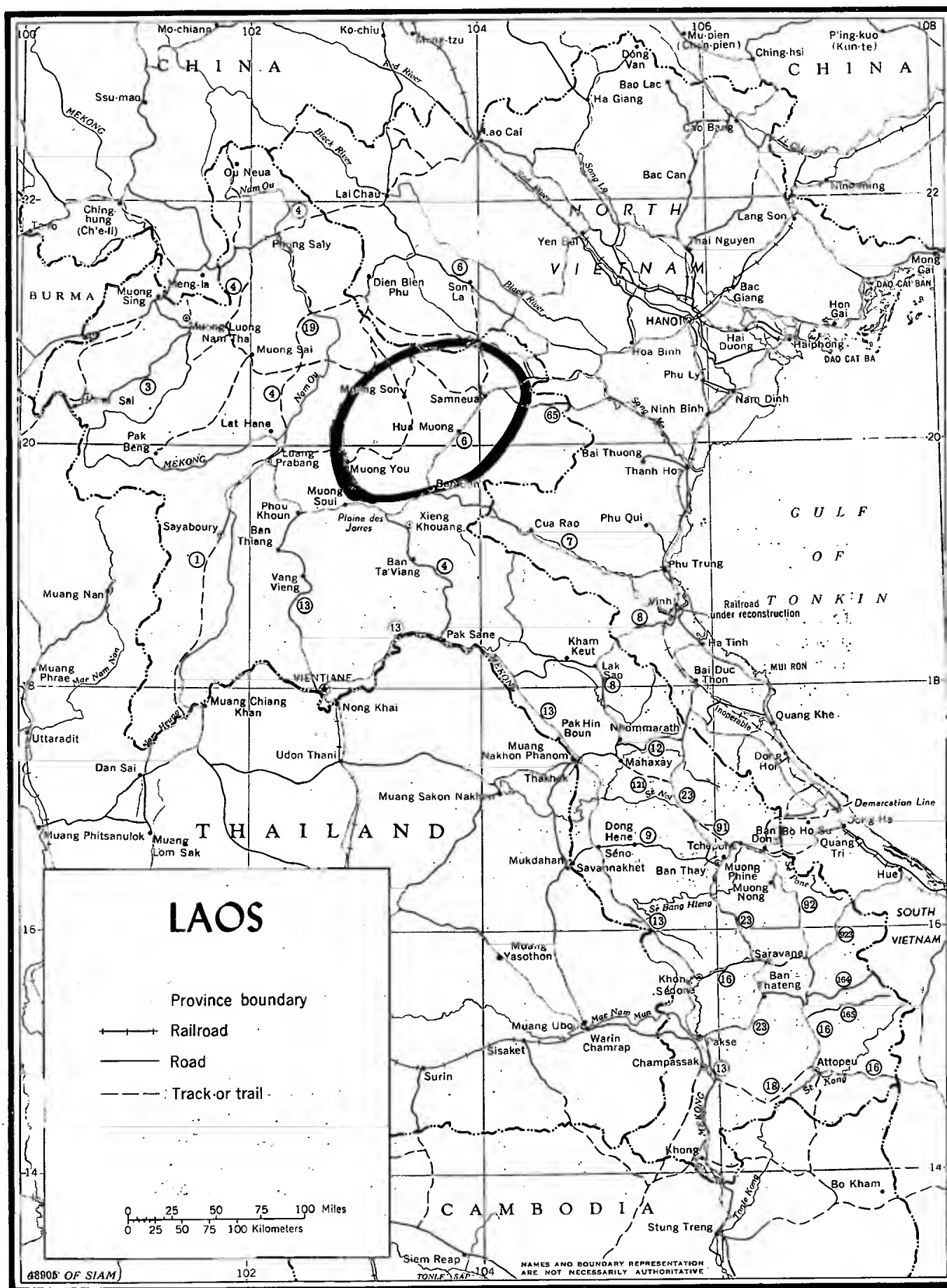
Actually, Soviet policy toward the Allies and toward West Berliners has recently been leaning more toward cooperation than harassment. Soviet and East German military leaves have indeed been cancelled, but this has been an annual precaution with the approach of the 13 August anniversary of the Berlin Wall.

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8. Soviet Union

There are increasing signs that Brezhnev has clipped the wings of the once fast-rising young Shelepin. There have been suggestions since the party congress last March that Shelepin is no longer charged with the important job of overseeing the security apparatus. He has, on the other hand, been made party watchdog over the consumer goods sector of the economy--a job which certainly did no good for the career of his predecessor.

Shelepin is still a man to be reckoned with. But right now it does seem that he has slipped well down from the second or third spot he held in the hierarchy before last March.

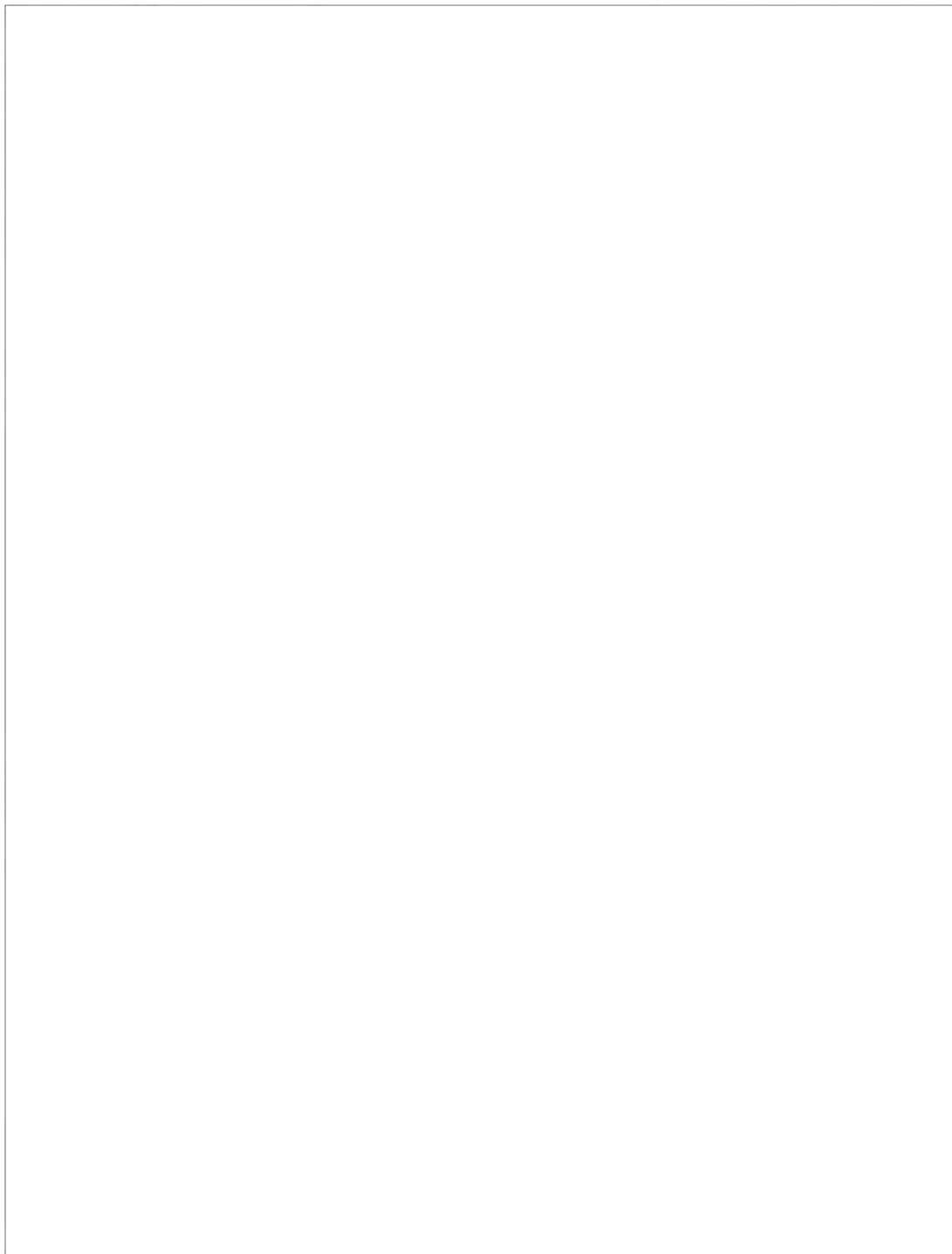




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